

CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 28-50, 78-100, and 128-150, without prejudice.

1. A computer-implemented method of facilitating communication with an entity over a network, the method comprising:
 - (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;
 - (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
 - (c) using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein step (c) is performed by displaying a communications web page associated with the entity, the communications web page reflecting the entity's current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with the entity based on the entity's dynamic session information.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.
7. The method of claim 5 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein multiple forms of communication with the entity are facilitated.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

- (d) associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the entity;
- (e) linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (f) using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.

12. A computer-implemented method of facilitating communication over a network with one or more members of a group of entities, the group comprising a plurality of entities, the method comprising:

- (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the group;
- (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' TCP port number on which to be reached.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' session ID.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein step (c) is performed by displaying a communications web page associated with the group, the communications web page reflecting each of the members' current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with each of the members based on the members' dynamic session information.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

19. The method of claim 12 wherein multiple forms of communication with each of the members of the group are facilitated.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

21. The method of claim 12 wherein the static HTTP URL contains group-selected information.

22. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

- (d) associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the group;
- (e) linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (f) using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

23. A computer-implemented method of determining the current online presence of an entity on a computer network, the method comprising:

- (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;
- (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) determining the current online presence of the entity using the URL and the communications information.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.

26. The method of claim 24 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.

27. The method of claim 23 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

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51. An article of manufacture for facilitating communication with an entity over a network, the article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium holding computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

- (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;
- (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.

52. The article of manufacture of claim 51 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

53. The article of manufacture of claim 52 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.

54. The article of manufacture of claim 52 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.

55. The article of manufacture of claim 51 wherein step (c) is performed by displaying a communications web page associated with the entity, the communications web page reflecting the entity's current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with the entity based on the entity's dynamic session information.

56. The article of manufacture of claim 55 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.

57. The article of manufacture of claim 55 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

58. The article of manufacture of claim 51 wherein multiple forms of communication with the entity are facilitated.

59. The article of manufacture of claim 58 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

60. The article of manufacture of claim 51 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

61. The article of manufacture of claim 51 wherein the computer-executable instructions perform a method further comprising:

- (d) associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the entity;
- (e) linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (f) using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.

62. An article of manufacture for facilitating communication over a network with one or more members of a group of entities, the group comprising a plurality of entities, the article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium holding computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

- (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the group;
- (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

63. The article of manufacture of claim 62 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

64. The article of manufacture of claim 63 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' TCP port number on which to be reached.

65. The article of manufacture of claim 63 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' session ID.

66. The article of manufacture of claim 62 wherein step (c) is performed by displaying a communications web page associated with the group, the communications web page reflecting each of the members' current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with each of the members based on the members' dynamic session information.

67. The article of manufacture of claim 66 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.

68. The article of manufacture of claim 66 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

69. The article of manufacture of claim 62 wherein multiple forms of communication with each of the members of the group are facilitated.

70. The article of manufacture of claim 69 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

71. The article of manufacture of claim 62 wherein the static HTTP URL contains group-selected information.

72. The article of manufacture of claim 62 wherein the computer-executable instructions perform a method further comprising:

- (d) associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the group;
- (e) linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and

(f) using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

73. An article of manufacture for determining the current online presence of an entity on a computer network, the article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable medium holding computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

- (a) associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;
- (b) linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) determining the current online presence of the entity using the URL and the communications information.

74. The article of manufacture of claim 73 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

75. The article of manufacture of claim 74 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.

76. The article of manufacture of claim 74 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.

77. The article of manufacture of claim 73 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

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101. A computer-implemented apparatus for facilitating communication with an entity over a network, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;
- (b) means for linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) means for using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.

102. The apparatus according to claim 101 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

103. The apparatus according to claim 102 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.

104. The apparatus according to claim 102 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.

105. The apparatus according to claim 101 wherein the means for using the URL and the communications information comprise means for displaying a communications web page associated with the entity, the communications web page reflecting the entity's current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with the entity based on the entity's dynamic session information.

106. The apparatus according to claim 105 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.

107. The apparatus according to claim 105 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

108. The apparatus according to claim 101 wherein multiple forms of communication with the entity are facilitated.

109. The apparatus according to claim 108 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

110. The apparatus according to claim 101 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

111. The apparatus according to claim 101 further comprising:

- (d) means for associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the entity;
- (e) means for linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and

(f) means for using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with the entity.

112. A computer-implemented apparatus for facilitating communication over a network with one or more members of a group of entities, the group comprising a plurality of entities, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for associating a static HTTP URL with the group;
- (b) means for linking the URL with communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (c) means for using the URL and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

113. The apparatus according to claim 112 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

114. The apparatus according to claim 113 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' TCP port number on which to be reached.

115. The apparatus according to claim 113 wherein the dynamic session information includes each of the members' session ID.

116. The apparatus according to claim 112 wherein the means for using the URL and the communications information comprise means for displaying a communications web page associated with the group, the communications web page reflecting each of the members' current online presence and including hyperlinks to facilitate communication with each of the members based on the members' dynamic session information.

117. The apparatus according to claim 116 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of the HTTP URL being typed into a web browser.

118. The apparatus according to claim 116 wherein the communications web page is displayed as a result of clicking on or otherwise activating a hyperlink associated with the HTTP URL.

119. The apparatus according to claim 112 wherein multiple forms of communication with each of the members of the group are facilitated.

120. The apparatus according to claim 119 wherein the forms of communication include type chat/instant messaging, voice communication over a computer network, video communication over a computer network, voice communication from a computer network to a telephone network and two-way text messaging to Internet enabled wireless devices.

121. The apparatus according to claim 112 wherein the static HTTP URL contains group-selected information.

122. The apparatus according to claim 112 further comprising:

- (d) means for associating additional, different static HTTP URLs with the group;
- (e) means for linking the additional URLs with the same communications information reflecting each of the members' current online presence including each of the members' dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and
- (f) means for using the additional URLs and the communications information to facilitate communication with one or more members of the group.

123. A computer-implemented apparatus for determining the current online presence of an entity on a computer network, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for associating a static HTTP URL with the entity;

(b) means for linking the URL with communications information reflecting the entity's current online presence including the entity's dynamic session information as determined using the HTTP protocol; and

(c) means for determining the current online presence of the entity using the URL and the communications information.

124. The apparatus according to claim 123 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's current dynamic IP address and host box identifier.

125. The apparatus according to claim 124 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's TCP port number on which to be reached.

126. The apparatus according to claim 124 wherein the dynamic session information includes the entity's session ID.

127. The apparatus according to claim 123 wherein the static HTTP URL contains entity-selected information.

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